After NATO's Romanian Coup, Where Next?

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On December 6th, Romania's constitutional court made an **extraordinary decision** to inexplicably overturn first round results of the country's November 24th presidential election. Conveniently, the ruling was made me days before a runoff that, according to **polls**, would've seen upstart outside Calin Georgescu win via landslide. In the process, citizens of all NATO member states were provided with a particularly pitiless, real-time crash course on what could now happen in their own countries, should the 'wron candidates be elected fair and square.

Georgescu's **stunning victory** in the first round caught Romania's political elite and their Western sponsors off guard, while leaving him the **most popular** political figure in the country. Campaigning on a traditionalist, nationalist platform, he extolled views some might consider unsavoury, but **also advocated** nationalisation, and state investment in local industry. Perh predictably, the Western media has universally **smeared him** as "far-right",

"pro-Putin" and a "conspiracy theorist", among other now-familiar sobrique commonly levelled at political dissidents.

Georgescu's greatest crime is to determinedly oppose continued Romanian involvement in and backing for the Ukraine proxy war. As Kiev's Black Sea-facing neighbour, Bucharest has offered significant financial, material and political succour since February 2022, all along running the risk of getting caught in the crossfire. But in **interviews** with Western news outlets, Georgescu boldly proclaimed any and all "military or political support" wou be reduced to "zero" under his watch:

"I have to take care of my people. I don't want to involve my people…Everythi stops. I have to take care just about my people. We have a lot of problems ourselves."

No official reason has been given for Romania's constitutional court voiding November's vote, despite days earlier **signing off** on the results. Nonetheles in the intervening time, Bucharest's security apparatus released **declassifie reports** intimating - without making direct accusations or providing any evidence whatsoever - Georgescu's victory *may* have resulted from a wide-ranging, Moscow-sponsored influence campaign, delivered via TikTok. Det provided instead pointed to a rather mundane - albeit successful - social media marketing effort.

The plot further thickened in late December, when it **was revealed** the TikT campaign that purportedly boosted Georgescu was in fact financed by Romania's National Liberal party. This backing helped propel the hitherto

obscure candidate to national prominence, the objective potentially being t harm the National Liberal party's arch nemesis Social Democrats. No evide of Muscovite funding, let alone support, for Georgescu has ever emerged. Nonetheless, despite these disclosures, the narrative of Russian destabilisation catapulting him into power has since been **invincibly minte**

NATO's grand and ever-expanding military base in Romania

Bucharest's sprawling territory is home to multiple US missile facilities, anc giant NATO military base, scheduled to soon be **greatly expanded**, explicitl service of decisively changing the region's "balance of power" in the West's favour. Meanwhile, Romanian presidents wield significant clout in domestic and international affairs. They dictate foreign policy, serve as commander-i chief of the armed forces, and appoint prime ministers. All of which points a far more likely rationale for the presidential election's abrogation than "Russian meddling".

'Without Hope'

On December 10th, the *BBC* published a **striking report** on how Romanians were "stunned by the eleventh-hour cancellation of their presidential election." The British state broadcaster was at pains throughout to justify th vote's unprecedented, despotic annulment as proper, reasonably motivated a "massive" and "aggressive" malign meddling campaign on TikTok - whethe of Russian origin or not - improperly skewing the result. However, the *BBC* evidently had little choice but to admit Georgescu was enormously, and organically, popular.

For example, **NATO veteran** Mircea Geoana, Bucharest's former foreign affa minister who ran for president in November and **finished sixth**, was quoted saying "Romania dodged a bullet" and "came very close" to an all-out coup. Moscow can do this in Romania, which is profoundly anti-Russian, it means they can do it anywhere," he ominously cautioned. Still, Geoana conceded there was "a whole cocktail of grievances in our society," and it would be "hugely mistaken to believe" Georgescu's success "was just because of Russ

The *BBC* acknowledged immense "fatigue" with Romania's doggedly pro-Western political establishment widely abounds among the local population who harbour an ever-growing number of completely legitimate grievances, entirely unaddressed in the mainstream. By contrast, the British state broadcaster recorded, Georgescu not only spoke openly and passionately about these manifold problems, but offered tangible solutions for tackling them. And a great many average citizens "liked what he said." Several Georgescu supporters were duly quoted in the article, issuing effusive prais One evangelised:

"He's like a preacher, with a Bible in his hand, and I thought he spoke only tl truth...He talks about rights and dignity. Romanians go to other countries fo work, but we have so many resources here. Wood, grain – and our soil is ver rich. Why should we be vagrants in Italy?"

The BBC further noted Georgescu's "pledge to Make Romania Great Again helped him perform particularly strongly among the vast Romanian diaspor Given Bucharest's **mass depopulation** in recent years, **significantly assisted** EU membership, this is hardly surprising. "Many who left because life was s tough are now getting by abroad rather than prospering," the British state broadcaster observed. Meanwhile, in Bucharest, costs of **basic goods** are "climbing at the fastest rate in Europe." An expat supporter of Georgescu forcefully declared:

"He's corrupt? He's with Putin? No, he's not. He's with the people. With Roma Georgescu is a patriot. He wants peace, not war, and we want that too. Some wants something good for his country and they won't allow him to do that. Maybe he'll be in prison in months and for what? For nothing...We feel lost ri now, without hope."

'Allied Solidarity'

To date, no concrete evidence directly implicating NATO powers in the invalidation of Romania's presidential election has emerged. We do not – an may never – know what might have been said behind closed doors to

members of Bucharest's Western-bought political, judicial, security and military establishment, and by whom. But there is a clear precedent for suc backroom conniving. In the final months of 1989, Communism commenced collapsing across the Warsaw Pact, the Cold War-era constellation of Centr and Eastern European Soviet satellite states.

The sole exception was Romania, then led by Nicolae Ceausescu. On December 4th that year, he privately met with then-Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, to discuss the fall of longstanding Communist governments in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary and Poland. Gorbachev, t all intents and purposes a **Western puppet**, assured Ceausescu his position was secure, he would "survive", and they would meet again in mere weeks. That summit never came to pass though, as on December 25th, Ceausescu **was executed** by military firing squad.

The 1989 Romanian revolution

This followed violent mass protests across Romania. Years later, it **was revealed** high-ranking US officials secretly met with Gorbachev that month imploring him to deploy the Red Army to oust Ceausescu. These entreaties were apparently rebuffed. Yet, subsequent research indicates that throughout December 1989, a profusion of KGB operatives **were conducting** uncertain, covert missions across the country, in coordination with Ion Iliescu, who succeeded Ceausescu. Suspicions he **personally ordered** the very security service crackdowns that ignited the insurrectionary anti-Ceausescu demonstrations endure to this day.

Whatever the truth of the matter, Romania's outsized geopolitical importance to the Empire then and now couldn't be clearer. In the weeks since Georgescu's victory was vetoed, it has **been announced** that further scores of foreign NATO troops will be dispatched to Bucharest, in explicit response to "the evolution of the security situation in the Black Sea region." Meanwhile, Romanian officials talk a big game on "allied solidarity", and look forward to "extensive joint training exercises" over the year ahead.

US soldiers conduct training exercises in Romania, November 2022

Furthermore, on **December 12th**, the Romanian government abruptly green long-mooted, highly controversial legislation providing for the country's military and all its "weapons, military devices and ammunition" to come un total foreign control and direction at any time, without a formal state declaration of emergency, siege, or war. In other words, NATO would have unilateral power to commandeer Bucharest's armed forces, at its behest. A useful capability indeed, as the nearby Ukraine proxy war **careens towards** total collapse, and overt foreign involvement is **openly mulled**.

The aforementioned *BBC* article reported that local "suspicion" about whet unseen foreign forces may have swayed "the judges' ruling to cancel the vo is such, "even those who feared a president Georgescu - and believe Russia was backing him - now worry about the precedent just set for Romanian democracy." We are left to ponder where next an illiberal coup of the kind t

just went down in Bucharest might be replicated, as the Empire's **surging contempt** for democracy and public will becomes writ ever-larger.

Nonetheless, one might draw some solace from the fact that even those wh endorsed Romania's autocratic putsch are well-aware it was a blunt-force, short-term solution to a panoply of deeply complex, likely intractable socioeconomic and political problems. Former NATO high-ranker Mircea Geoana told the British state broadcaster that nullification of Georgescu's victory had delivered at best transitory reprieve to Western powers, and th chosen puppets in Romania. Moreover, he feared the move could spectacularly boomerang, should elites continue to ignore citizens' concern

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"We bought ourselves some time. But there is real fury here. And if we don't something, we might have a repeat."

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Gillian 1d

Liked by Kit Klarenberg

Excellent as always, Kit. I will add a few more details which may or may not be important. Firstly, largely unknown outside Romania that a candidate for the presidency, Diana Șoșoaca, was barre standing just weeks before the elections took place. She is a controversial, larger than life figure like Georgescu, a patriot who refuses to lick NATO boot. Her reasons for disqualification were no transparent, but this certainly helped channel further support into the Georgescu campaign rathe have the anti-war vote diluted over two candidates.

Secondly, I found it fascinating watching the foreign press react to the presidential elections. The all saying that the votes were going to Georgescu and to the PNL (liberal, EU, NATO) candidate E Lasconi. The actual data was showing something very different. Lasconi was definitely in third pla behind the PSD candidate, Marcel Ciolacu. Now the PSD are the descendants of the old socialist but any residual left ideology as been totally expunged. However, they have massive support, esp amongst the elderly and the conservative. Had the second round of the presidential election bee between Ciolacu and Georgescu, Ciolacu would have won, no doubt. There are enough conserva voters who would have backed him (religious working class who loathe Georgescu's admiration f Legion (Romania's nationalist and fascist organisation in the 1920s and 1930s) and the liberals w have backed him too. Then out of nowhere, when just the diaspora votes were being counted, it became a Lasconi/Georgescu contest..... Ciolacu slithered into third place. Colour me suspicious. foreign press had been fed with this outcome before the results ever came close to showing it.

This leaves me with the feeling that the whole thing has been engineered. Split the country into t camps, one traditional/one liberal. Divide and conquer. It is working. I am here watching friendsh and families being broken by voting preferences. The whole thing looks decidedly like the Republican/Democrat s**tstorm that voters in the US get. Everyone getting very aerated by noth if it were a matter of life and death. Nothing will change other than Romanian society will contin fragment. A NATO win, no doubt.

Also the timing is very suspicious. Make as much irreversible trouble for the incoming Trump administration as possible so that he can not possibly back away from project Ukraine. Add to th demonstrations in Serbia against the Trump-friendly Vucic. Look at the map of the region and se strong anti-war support from the old DDR, Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia, Macedonia and Romania a was simply too much for NATO to stomach. Their plan to promote Georgescu backfired like the Democrat promotion of Trump in 2016. NATO are too stupid to realise that populist rhetoric is ac popular.

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2 replies by Kit Klarenberg and others

Kojo 1d *Edited*

Liked by Kit Klarenberg

Part of the problem is that the western public is to all intents and purposes history-less. And thos do not know history are doomed to see it repeated, or at least restaged.

The fact is that a major theme of the previous cold war was NATO sponsored coups and even mi rule. Yes in Asia, Africa and South America such as in Brazil, Argentina, Congo, Korea and Taiwan NATO was the patron of authoritarian military governments, but ALSO in Europe.

In Europe, NATO sponsored military coups in Greece in the 1970s and I think 1980s. And gladly a with fascist military dictators such as Franco in Spain and Salazar then later Spinoa and Gomes in Portugal - these were places where NATO backed military governments ruled up until the 1980s!

NATO is not about democracy. Or fighting authoritarianism.

No matter what paid and disgraced liars like Rutte, Stoltenberg and Von der Leyen tell you. They not guarding against the wolf: they ARE the wolf.

They want to steal everyone's freedom to chose their own government, to elimintate freedom of speech and thought, they want to steal your right to privacy, they want to steal your money by m the false claim that we "owe" them an endlessly growing percentage of our national income, they to force people to work with no labour rights at all, they even want to steal control of every last s of nature and the commons under the guise of "critical resources", "critical minerals", "energy se etc.

You only have to look briefly back in history too all these patterns. Its publically available informa NATO will gladly seize military control of European countries and spread dictatorships, if people them. People in South Korea appear to understand fully - they too lived under a NATO imposed government until the 1980s. But people in Europe are at the momment completely asleep. They cannot happen to them. But it can.

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